

## Youth in Action AmeriCorps

**2013 - 2014**

**Flagstaff, Arizona**

**Federal Legislative District(s): 1**

### PROGRAM FAST FACTS

**Congressional District(s): 1**  
**State Legislative District(s): 2**  
**Service Area by County/City: Coconino County, Flagstaff, Arizona**  
**Project Federal Share: \$388,014**  
**Project Local Match: \$403,743**  
**Community Volunteers Recruited: 1,679**  
**Volunteer Hours Served: 13,113**  
**Value of Volunteer Hours: \$263,309.04**  
\*2011 Independent Sector Rate for the Value of a Volunteer Hour in Arizona is \$20.08

### **Community Need**

By utilizing the multi-site model Youth In Action (YiA) AmeriCorps members have been deployed into the community to have a direct impact on disaster victims, increase the reading skills of students and adults, increase knowledge and practices for environmental stewardship, have an impact on low employment, and leverage volunteerism by engaging all ages in volunteer service. These areas were selected because they have been identified by Coconino County as critical areas of need. For example, members have been allocated to assist with the Schultz Fire and Flood Disaster area and initiate prevention measures to avoid future wildfires.

### **National Priority Area and Program Performance Goals**

Youth in Action (YiA) has provided Coconino County consistent AmeriCorps service since 1994. As a program we work with over 25 different sites located throughout Flagstaff. Each of our partner sites are specifically selected to address

the needs of the community through our six focus areas. Our focus areas are Encore, Capacity Building, Economic Opportunity, Environmental Stewardship, Education and Disaster Services.

### **Program Activities**

Youth in Action AmeriCorps (YiA) members have conducted over 117 environmental awareness trainings for over 1461 community members in a single service term. As a result of the AmeriCorps awareness trainings, 78.58% of participants said they learned something new. YiA encore members serving in partnership with Senior Corps engaged over 493 volunteers aged 55 and above; thus creating new opportunities for people to remain active and involved in their community longer in life. Through America Reads, NACRC and other educational partner sites YiA members tutored 453 children in reading in the 2013 PY; improving their confidence by 48.35%.

With the help of YiA members and Goodwill of Northern Arizona, 396 people in the Flagstaff area were able to obtain employment.

### **Program Impact**

As one of the longest running programs in the state, YiA has contributed to the growth and success of National Service in Arizona. We are an active partner in connecting streams of service. Currently we place AmeriCorps members with Senior Corps programs throughout Arizona to recruit older adult volunteers and plan and expand National Days of Service events. In the past we have hosted AmeriCorps VISTA members. In 2014 we hope to host a NCCC AmeriCorps crew for the first time.



# Youth in Action, Cont.

## Mission

Youth in Action AmeriCorps delivers a quality program that provides service opportunities to individuals who develop valuable professional skills and experience while benefitting our community.

## Vision

Youth in Action AmeriCorps builds a strong community through commitment to positive and active citizenship.

## History

Created in 1994, Youth in Action AmeriCorps is Arizona's longest running AmeriCorps program. In 2014 Youth in Action will celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive year serving the Flagstaff community. Youth in Action members facilitate coordinated and proactive solutions to community oriented problems in the Flagstaff area through better organized services, enhancement of on-going programs and the development of new programs. Youth in Action as a program has created a mechanism for participating agencies and organizations to pool resources and maximize services to create opportunity for the Youth of Flagstaff.

## Partnerships

Youth in Action partners with 25 different organizations and governmental sites throughout Flagstaff Arizona. Youth in Action members are serving with Alpine Leadership Academy, America Reads, The Arboretum, Bear Jaw Fire and Fuels, Bothands Inc., The City of Flagstaff Sustainability Office, Coconino Coalition for Children and Youth, Coconino County Sustainable Building, Flagstaff Cultural Partners, Full Circle Trade and Thrift, Goodwill of Northern Arizona, Grand Canyon Trust, Grand Canyon Youth, Killip Elementary School, Museum of Northern Arizona, NACET, NACRC, NAU Campus Recreation Department, NAU Civic Service Institute, NAU KNAU Radio Station, NAU Senior Corps, Pine Forrest Charter School, Sun Sounds Radio Station, TGEN North and Willow Bend.

## OTHER

Our program has been very successful in helping members transition to full time paid employment in Coconino County. We offer monthly professional development for members and several of our alumni have gone on to be leaders in nonprofits and local government locally.

